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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/886,657	06/21/2001	Paul Martin	12957-005001	4744

26161 7590 06/03/2004	**EXAMINER**
FISH & RICHARDSON PC	SAIN, GAUTAM
225 FRANKLIN ST	
BOSTON, MA 02110	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Office Action Summary</td><td>Application No.</td><td>Applicant(s)</td><td></td></tr>
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>14 January 2004</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-7</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-7</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/2004</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1)   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1-1)   Claim 1,2,3,5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Liaw et al (US 5572644, issued Nov 1996).

Regarding claim 1, Liaw teaches "providing … source" (ie., 3-D block – cube of

cells)(col 10, lines –67).

Liaw teaches "configuring … unedited state" (ie., selection of 3-D cell…)(col 10,

lines 19-27).

Liaw teaches "allowing a user to edit … elements" (ie., Advanced editing)(col 11,

lines 25-67)(editing cells)(col 3, lines 60-67).

Liaw teaches "displaying … spreadsheet" (ie., edit … present)(col 3, lines 60-67).

Liaw teaches "allowing the user … initial unedited state)(ie., records having

default values can remain unchanged…)(col 38, line 27 – col 39, line 23).

Regarding claim 2, Liaw teaches "using spreadsheet … storage source" (ie.,

multi-dimensional .. storage… data structure … spreadsheet)(col 39, line 55 – col 40,

line 10).

Regarding claim 3, Liaw teaches "storing the edited storage source" (ie., in-

memory information structures … persistent storage structures)(col 4, lines 12 – 20).

Regarding claim 5, Liaw teaches "an interactive ... method" (ie., GUI ... user

supply inputs)(col 6, lines 20-27).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2)   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2-1)   Claims 4,6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Liaw (as cited above), in view of Tortolani et al (US 6317750, filed Oct 1998).

Regarding claim 4, Liaw does not expressly teach, but Tortolani teaches

"allowing the user ... such edit" (ie., options by user ... blueprint may not be created)(col

9, line 65 – col 10, line 13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify Liaw to include options by the user to create or not create a blueprint

edits as taught by Tortolani, providing the benefit of an automated and intelligent

process for replicating user-entered formulas manipulate multidimensional data in a

spreadsheet user interface, where the user keys in formulas and types in repetitive data

which is error-prone (Tortolani, col 3, lines 1-16).

Regarding claim 6, Liaw does not expressly teach, but Tortolani teaches "add-in

to the spreadsheet application" (col 7, line 31, fig 2, item 206).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify Liaw to include spreadsheet add-in as taught by Tortolani, providing

the benefit of an automated and intelligent process for replicating user-entered formulas

to manipulate multidimensional data in a spreadsheet user interface, where the user

keys in formulas and types in repetitive data which is error-prone (Tortolani, col 3, lines

1-16).

2-2)   Claims 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liaw

(as cited above), in view of Savage et al (US 6604110, filed Oct 31, 2000), further in

view of Tortolani et al (US 6317750, filed Oct 1998).

Regarding claim 7, Liaw does not expressly teach, but Savage teaches "a

central processing unit ... computer-readable instructions" (ie., fig 2 shows a CPU, item

48; BUS, item 50; memory, item 60, 58, 37; Graphical User Interface, item 66).

Liaw teaches "providing a multi-dimensional data storage source" (ie.,

spreadsheet ... storage)(col 3-4, summary section).

Liaw teaches "configuring ... unedited state" (ie., spreadsheet ... storage ...

default values)(col 3-4, summary section).

Liaw teaches "allowing ... elements" (ie., selection of 3-D blocks)(col 10; col 3,

lines 60-65).

Liaw teaches "displaying ... spreadsheet" (ie., user can edit; Advanced

editing)(col 3, lines 60-65; col 11).

Liaw does not expressly teach, but Tortolani teaches "allowing the user ... such

edit" (ie., options by user ... blueprint may not be created)(col 9, line 65 – col 10, line

13).

Liaw teaches "allowing the user ... initial unedited state)(ie., records having default values can remain unchanged...)(col 38, line 27 – col 39, line 23).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Liaw to include a CPU, BUS, memory, GUI as taught by Savage, providing the benefit of supporting an on-line analytical processing to analyze groups of records that share common field value (Savage, col 1, lines 35-40), and further to include options by the use to create or not create a blueprint edits as taught by Tortolani, providing the benefit of an automated and intelligent process for replicating user-entered formulas manipulate multidimensional data in a spreadsheet user interface, where the user keys in formulas and types in repetitive data which is error-prone (Tortolani, col 3, lines 1-16).

Other Cases

3) A.   DeKimpe et al (US 654895, filed Aug 1999).

    B.   Dionne et al (US 2002/0133478, filed Mar 16, 2001)

    C.   Bensoussan et al (US 6581068, filed Feb 2000).

    D.   Bowman-Amuah (US 6256773, filed Aug 1999).

    E.   Reddy et al (US 6574619, filed Mar 24, 2000).

    F.   Malloy et al (US 6629102, filed Jul 28, 2000).

    G.   Pouschine et al (US 5918232, issued Jun 29, 1999).
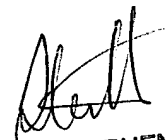
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 703-305-8777. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (703)305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GS

STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER